

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

by Karen Rogers

Whether it is the semiformal, the carnival, Spirit Week or the Roxbury exchange, the Student Council is always planning for and scheduling events. Their most recent project was the Winter Carnival consisting of the Snowfest and the Sadie Hawkins semiformal. Michelle Jacobson, student council President said this took a lot of preparation and organization by the council. They met weekly as a whole group and more than once a week in committees.

The next activity planned by the council was spirit week. Each day, Monday through Friday there is a different theme. Monday is backwards or reverse day; Tuesday is Hawaiian day; Wednesday is color day; Thursday is clash day and Friday is the Valentine match day. Each class has a different color for Wednesday. The seniors are blue; Juniors are red; sophomores are white and freshman are green. In order to promote a strong school spirit the council would like to see many people participating in these activities.

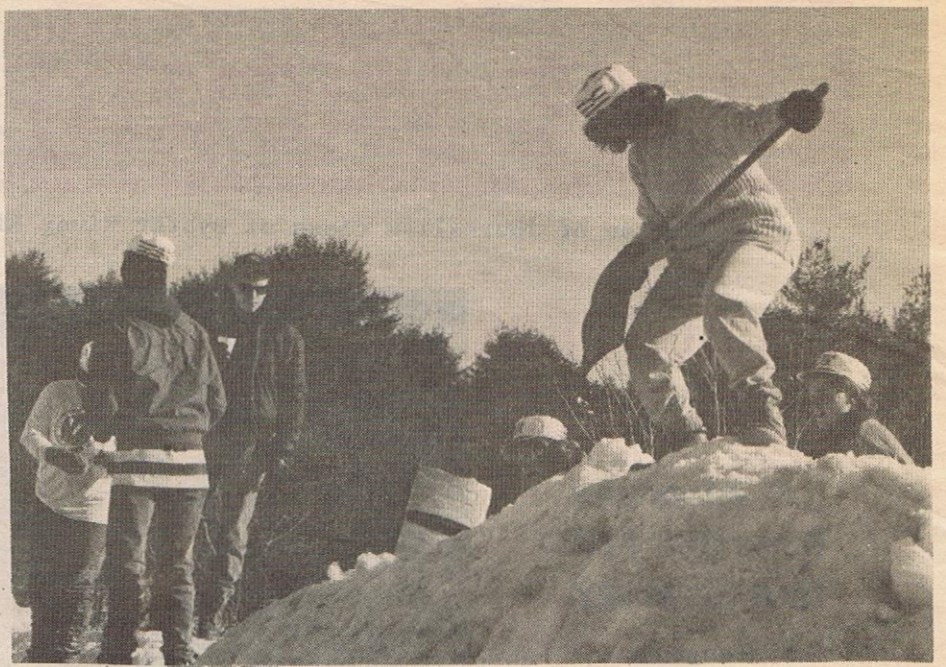
The council is comprised of twelve members: four elected officers and two elected members from each class. The four officers have to be juniors or seniors and

must have served on the council before. The elected by the school are as follows: president, Michelle Jacobson; vice president, Julie Wyrick; treasurer, Esme Hurley; and secretary, Dina Vasiliou. The representatives elected by their fellow classmates are: seniors, Kiri Gigley and Joy Coleman; juniors, Missy Goding and Rich Martin; sophomores, Jeff Moore and Mike Voll; freshmen, Jason Pollard and Laura Magidson. Paul Gasowski, an English Teacher, is the Student Council advisor.

The purpose of the council is get the students more involved and to promote a school spirit within the students. Julie Wyrick says "We are here for the students and we want them to know that we are really open to ideas. We really need your participation to make it work. The more enthusiasm we have, the more we can plan to make the year better."

The council gathered a lot of school spirit this fall by sponsoring busses for the students to a few of the athletic events. This enabled the teams to feel a tight and strong spirit from the fans.

The student council also works with the administration on planning the school calendar throughout the year. "We are working for you, to make your school year better," said President Michelle Jacobson.



Jenny Rufner and on-looking Seniors work on their snow sculpture.

Sadie Hawkins Dance Gets Mixed Reviews

by Rain Williams

The Sadie Hawkins Dance has come and gone, but lingering still are the students feelings about girls asking guys.

Is it socially acceptable for guys to be approached for a date by a girl? Are the roles no longer controlled by the old traditions?

There are mixed opinions about the dance being Sadie Hawkins. Most of the guys favored it, but some of the girls questioned had a hard time asking guys to the dance.

Junior, Missy Goding said, "I felt awkward in the beginning asking a guy out, but after it was accepted that other girls were asking other guys, it was O.K."

Many guys said that they really liked the idea of girls asking them out instead of them having always to make the first step. Freshman Brad Poulin said, "It gives a situation where the pressure isn't all on the guy. I'm all for it!"

Many girls aren't so keen on the idea. One freshman explained, "I asked a friend who I knew would go with me instead of asking someone I really liked because I was afraid he would say no."

In contradiction to the freshman's statement a senior guy said, "Girls should ask guys out. So what if they are afraid of rejection, guess how we feel?"

Some people have no opinion on the role reversal. One senior guy commented, "Personally, I think I don't know or care."

Others are sarcastic about the Sadie Hawkins Dance. "It gives the school unity and spirit, sort of a 'Hey are you goin' to the Sadie?' type of situation." This came from one, very funny, junior guy, Chad Bradbury.

Overall, most of the people questioned asked some one they were comfortable being-with, not someone they didn't know. Only a few girls

Sadie Hawkins

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sculpture contest, the sophomores built a teddy bear and the freshman built a pound puppy. The seniors won the whole Snowfest event and will receive money from the Student Council.

Overall the council was pleased with the participation of the students in the Carnival and hopes that such enthusiasm will be evident in the activities to come.

'87 Snowfest Best Attended

by Karen Rogers

Student council said they felt that the Winter Carnival was a huge success. The Carnival consisted of the Snowfest during the day and the Sadie Hawkins semi-formal at night. Julie Wyrick, the Student Council Vice President said that "there seemed to be a larger turnout to both events than in past years and everyone seemed to be having fun."

The Student Council sponsored the Winter Carnival and took much time preparing for the big event. The Snowfest hours were planned to be from 10:00-2:30 but as the day grew on so did the hours. The final crowd left around 3:00. Michelle Jacobson, Student Council president said, "There was probably over 200 people coming and going throughout the day, we were really pleased with the enthusiasm."

There was a variety of food sold throughout the day. The Journalism class sold doughnuts, the planetarium sold popcorn, and in contrast to the extreme cold of the day, the sophomores sold hot chocolate.

The activities and games held throughout the day were as follows: snow golf, snow sculptures, the three-legged race, the potato sack race, the

Snowfest

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Bethany Blessing, Andrea Viccaro and Jen Stevens get ready for the onion sack race which was one of many events featured at Snowfest. (Yearbook photo)

The Mouth of the River
Oyster River High School
Coe Drive
Durham, N.H. 03824
A Publication of the Journalism Class

Student Editors: Joy Coleman
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Dave Mangene	Tom McDonough	Gunnar Olson
Kieth Pearsall	Dan Randall	Mark Randall
Dave Rice	Karen Rogers	Chris Schuyler
Joe Williams	Rain Williams	

Advisor: Richard Tappan

Proposals of New High School? Proposal Held Off

by David Criswell

Geoffrey Jones, Principal of Oyster River High School, has been meeting with architects but still have decided on whether or not to build a new high school or to make renovations to the present facility.

The School Board and architects will be going through a process to decide on what they will do. They are looking at what the ideal facility will be like in the next ten years with a projected enrollment of 800 students. They next will see how much of the ideal facility will fit on the present grounds. After going through these things they will look at how much of this the school district will be able to afford.

Whichever plan the School Board decides to take it will be brought before the voters in March, at the district meeting there will be a warrant article to postpone the voting of a bond issue till April when a special meeting will be called. The bond issue will pay for 60% of the cost while the rest will be coming from state funding.

"We know our space needs and the land we have to work with," said Jones. "It will not be possible to tell whether or not renovations will be made or a new high school will be built till May."



O.R. Currents to Hit Stands Soon

by John Duffy

This year's first issue of the Oyster River Currents literary magazine is due out sometime before February vacation according to assistant editor David Criswell. The Writing Workshop based magazine is in its third year of production. According to the Currents founder, Mr. Tappan this year is the first time that the magazine has received funding from the school. This type of publication is "not typical" for a High School of our size says Tappan.

The magazine consists, mostly of the writing of students in Writing Workshop classes but it welcomes any students to contribute their writing.

Eight editors work on the Currents; seniors; Antje Mueller, and Melissa Flanagan. juniors, Melanie Morrell, Mary Beth Ober, and Dave Criswell; sophomores Mike Luft, Orlando Herold, and Jeff Moore.

Attendance Policy Cuts Absenteeism

by David Criswell

"The attendance policy is increasingly serving the purpose and by December I saw a definite improvement," said John Kolbjornsen, attendance monitor of Oyster River High School.

The new policy has been up to a lot of criticism but has done its job. Geoffrey Jones, Principal of Oyster River, said there have been fewer kids absent and tardiness has dropped.

New statistics show that absences have decreased since the new policy went into effect. Jones said that he wants daily attendance to be up around 95%. Last year an average taken from five days over the course of the year was 93%. This year the percentage is at 96% which shows a considerable improvement.

Kolbjornsen feels the policy is very reasonable compared to other schools. At two local schools a student must not be absent from a class for more than 11 days Newmarket High School and 16 days at St. Thomas Aquinas High School. Oyster River now allows 20 days for a full year course which is "lenient" said Kolbjornsen.

The policy has had some problems, but not with the policy in general but with certain aspects said Jones. Some problem that have risen are what would be considered an excused or unexcused absence or tardiness. Some examples of an excused absence are illnesses, family emergencies, or other absences receiving prior approval (2 days) from the assistant principal.

"The purpose is to raise overall grades of students," said Jones "but that will take at least a year to get accurate statistics."

Suspension

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The snowball only resulted in minor cuts but an Oyster river teacher witnessed the incident and reported it to Oyster River principal Geoffrey Jones.

"It was brought to my attention by a teacher who was present at the game and I made the decision to suspend the student," said Mr Jones. He went on to explain that, "the school's policy on physical injury is listed as a 1-3 day suspension." The student in this case received a 3 day suspension.

The student was informed of the punishment the day after the game and was upset by the decision.

"Mr Jones asked me if I hit a girl in the face with a snowball and I explained that I threw one but it hit the bleachers. He then said that a teacher saw me do it and that I was suspended."

Student reaction tended to be mainly against Mr. Jones's decision.

Junior Greg Blanchard who was at the game felt the decision was the wrong one.

"Mr Jones can't suspend him for it. It didn't happen during school time so he shouldn't be suspended."

Yet Oyster River teacher Richard Tappan said this is not true. "A student can be suspended at any school activity because he or she is under the schools supervision." It doesn't matter if the events during school, after school, on school property or off school property.

Junior Chris Webb did not excuse the throwing of the snowball but felt that "if Mr Jones is going to suspend one person for throwing a snowball then he should suspend everyone who does it on school property after school."

Even though the student body may not agree with it the school does have the right to suspend a student in this case and any which involves personal injury.

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EDITORIAL

In the third week of March, the Visiting Committee of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges will be swarming over Oyster River. This visit is part of the process of accrediting the high school, a procedure which occurs every ten years. This evaluation process has caused a great deal of soul-searching by the faculty, administration, and to some extent, the community about what we do here. The bottom line is, "Is what we are doing here good?"

Oyster River operates in an atmosphere of high expectations. The teachers expect a lot from their students; the community expects a lot from the teachers. We have come to expect excellence as if that is the norm of life around here. This creates pressure, but Oyster River students and teachers have learned to take pressure and excellence for granted.

The community and the school expect Oyster River students to come out first in the California Aptitude Test, first in the Writing Sample, first in soccer, first in music. FIRST. Somehow, anything short of that is often seen as failure. Many students feel as if they can gain little sense of self-worth unless they achieve excellence at something. Just doing one's best may not be enough.

This kind of pressure is uncomfortable, but we place these expectations on ourselves. We tend to assume that with the high native ability of the student population and the resources in a prosperous suburban community that excellence is virtually assured.

In truth, there are many communities in the prosperous southern tier of New Hampshire with similar populations and with considerably more resources for funding the school. Oyster River does not have an unusual tax base. A visit to this facility will not leave a person impressed with the lavishness of the physical facilities, for instance.

As the March visitation approaches, it is important that we who teach and learn here be realistic about ourselves. We have flaws and blemishes; we don't always come out #1; we need to do a better job in reaching all of the students' educational needs. However, out of this realistic view of ourselves can come a reduction in pressure and a reassuring pride: We are, by any standards, doing very well, and with the help of this accreditation process, we will also acknowledge where we can improve. A healthy self-knowledge cannot help but to give us confidence--confidence in what we are, and confidence in what we can become.



COMMENTARY

3...2...1 Happy New Year! 1987 - a new year, a new beginning. 1987 - people to meet, places to go. 1987 - Senior trip, Senior follies, Senoir graduation - senioritis!

My friends knew that I was fading fast. School just wasn't important to me anymore. Each day I found myself doing the same old thing. I had given up in one of my classes, because I was just sick and tired of working hard and getting C's. I wanted a "fun" Senior year.

Finally my friends talked some sense into me. I started studying again.

Unfortunately, not soon enough. Midterms were impossible. No way could I make up in a couple of days two months of work that I had blown off. Now that it was the end of the marking period I realized what I had done.

Colleges accept people on a conditional basis. If they see your term grades dropping, they drop you as well. I don't know exactly what the colleges I applied to will do, but I'm hoping I didn't just mess everything up.

At this time of year many seniors tend to develop a negative, impatient attitude, just like I did. Some teachers are very understanding of this attitude, but not of actions the student takes because of this attitude. The new attendance policy doesn't help matters. We are being punished for the actions of last year's seniors. No longer

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Qualifications Simple For "West Side Story" Says Steve Denson



West Side Story will be this year's musical, to be presented May 7th, 8th and 9th. Auditions will be held March 2nd, 3rd, and 4th with rehearsals beginning March 16th.

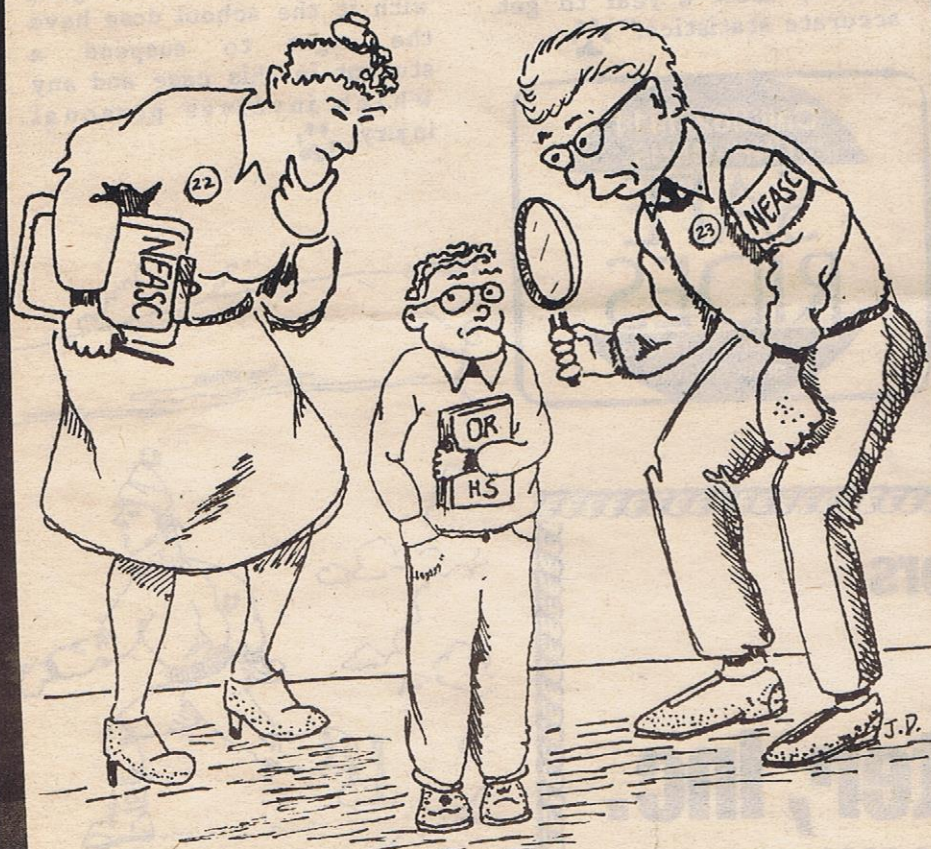
Although every effort is made each year to encourage people to audition for the musical, there are always those people who feel that for one reason or other they can't be part of it. For West Side Story it is particularly important that people understand what we are looking for in casting. To put it simply, if you are a high school student you are perfectly qualified. This is not a show for dancers or singers or actors, it is a show for young people.

There are solo parts which demand great singers, particularly Tony, Maria and Anita and people interested in those roles should see Mr. Denson to prepare for auditions. But there are many leading roles with either no solo singing or singing for just the average person. For example, Bernardo, Krupke, Schrank, Doc, Anybody's, Arab, Graziella, Velma, and Chino are all important roles with no solo work at all and the solos for Baby John, Action, Rif, Consuelo, and Rosalia, are very easy. To take some of the threat out of auditioning, each audition session will start with everyone learning a group number together. Then as the auditions progress people who are trying out for non-solo roles will audition

in groups. Only those interested in solo singing roles will need to sing by themselves.

Much has been made of the importance of Dance to this show. Certainly movement is an important part of what makes West Side Story powerful, but it is not dance in the usual sense but rather teenagers, full of energy and feeling moving in the ways that young people ordinarily move. The movement will come from what you do, not from a dancer's set of stock moves. Whoever you are, whatever you do, you can be part of this show and it can be a very exciting and special experience for you.

I have done this show many times before and it has always been very rewarding for all cast members. One young woman, now a professional performer who was in the chorus of West Side Story with me some years ago said "the smallest role in West Side Story is as good or better than the leading role in any other show I have ever done." I hope that many people who have never before done any theatre as well as the many who have acted here or elsewhere will audition for this show. We particularly need people who may not think of themselves as performers. The point is that the cast of West Side Story must not look like performers but like average kids in all assorted sizes, shapes and types.



And we thought inspector 21 was tough! when these birds from the N.E.A.S.C. are through, they'll know every secret from our dirty glass to our 2-digit I.Q.s.

Roxbury Exchange May Open Students' Eyes to Urban and Minority Schools

by Mark Randall

The Oyster River Student Council is now considering the visit of students from the Mission Church High School of Roxbury, Massachusetts. As of this moment the student council is not exactly sure when we will receive these in students, but they do look forward to completing the other half of the Roxbury exchange.

The idea of this exchange was brought to O.R. from Andre Ravenelle, the assistant principal of the Roxbury school. Mr. Ravenelle first discussed his plans with Julie Wyrick here at O.R. and then went to his school's student council to make the whole plan possible.

On October 10, 1986, the Oyster River Student Council entered into the halls of the inner city, parochial high school. The day was split into two parts: half was spent in classes and the other half was spent in an assembly with the entire school. The council was warmly welcomed with a pizza lunch, provided by the school. Ten people went from this school; seven of which were on the council, one from the student body, and two chaperones. The ten are as follows: Julie Wyrick, Esme Hurley, Dina Vasiliou, Rich Martin, Jeff Moore, Danielle Ravenelle, Jason Pollard, Laura Magidson, Mrs. Vasiliou and Paul Gasowski.



The parochial high school has a student population of 175 minority students. Despite the fact that the Roxbury school has a small enrollment and limited facilities, the spirit of pride was evident to the O.R. observers. "We all started out with a negative outlook toward what we would see," said Esme Hurley "I must admit my attitudes changed when I saw them hanging out the windows to greet us."

Mr. Gazowski felt that the first half of the exchange was very educational to those who participated, "I'd like for the Mission Church students to come here and be treated as warmly." Mr. Gazowski said "I think were capable of doing that if we're well planned."

Senioritis

(Continued from Page 4)

can we "blow off" classes for a day at the beach.

One help is looking at the positives. You are not just "getting out". These four years have been hard, but Oyster River is the best in the state according to C.A.T. testing and many other standards. The demands that have been made on us are producing good results. You are "getting out" with a future.

This high school has also shown much concern for seniors as compared to the other classes. Guidance has bent over backwards to accomodate everyone with their college applications. If you are planning to work after high school they have done their best to prepare you for what is to about to come.

Remember that your teachers may also lose interest. The only catch for them is that they don't get to graduate. Hopefully - you will!



MATH TEAM AIMS FOR #1

by Dave Mangene

Matt Little's perfect score of 30 helped the O.R.H.S. Math team to victory at their recent meet in Portsmouth.

O.R. has been successful this year, but still trails the first place team, Masconomit, by 61 points. The Bobcats have two meets left to catch Masconomit.

Advisor Petar Stoykovich had this to say about the team, "The team has performed very well and are doing a superb job"

The Math team this year is made up of Seniors, Kerry Casey, Chris Cuniff, Greg Bradshaw, and Matt Little. The Juniors are Seth and Brooke Taube, Yesim Celikkol, and Steve Fuller. The Sophomores include Pat Casey, Jeff Crum, and alternate Matt Provencher.



"Fireman, Save My Child!", a Comical Melodrama, Staged

by Kathrin Lynes

Oyster River High School hosted the Fracture Floating Theater on February 7, 1987, admission \$2. Their production, entitled "Fireman Save my Child", was an old-fashioned melodrama directed by Dave Ervin.

The play revolved around two brothers, Chester, played by Todd Whitten, and Archibald, played by Steve Fueller. Chester was framed by his evil brother, Archibald, for embezzling funds from the mill at which they were both employed. Chester fled, ashamed of the accusations. Upon his return, Archibald pays him back the money owed to him for a loan sometime ago. The money he used to pay him back was the stolen money. Chester's mother sees him with the "bad" money and disowns him. The rest of the play deals with how Chester clears his name, and is united with his mother once again.

Steve Fueller, the typical villian, "had a great time." Todd Whitten was impressed by Dave Ervin's directing. Todd stated, "He knew how it was supposed to be done." Ervin redid scenes and improved them a great deal, according to Whitten. One thing that he would have changed was the timing - rehearsal was during exams.

Chris Loder, technical director for the Drama Club, said, "Although for this production I was not directly involved, I feel that the one act play enabled people who

wouldn't normally be involved a chance to use their talents." He went on to say that the one-act play gave great experience to the performers with a little less pressure than a longer production.





HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

Daryl, The best ever!!!
Love your Fan Club

Happy Anniversary Lisa
-Mark

Dearest Kim D.- I love you- T.
I miss you Brad! Josh

Deb, we musn't forget
Pach and Sey-Rey.
Happy V-Day Chris
Mautz!! No Joke ... No Joke

Dear DGDM
lets make this the
best valentines ever!
"stay the night!" see
ya later happy v-day.

To my very own T.C.-
Love- Min

Mrs. K. Pie has a nice
ring to it, doesn't it
honey?

Greg, "Together, Forever,
never say goodbye...." Happy
Valentine's Day cuties!!! Deb

Min
Happy V-Day
Love your T-C

To Darrell Briggs, keep
wearing shorts. Love,
period gym

Alan, Roses are red,
violets are blue, no one could
ever take the place of you.
Love Forever, Shannon

Happy Valentines Day to
Dana Wilson. Love, Mom xoxo

Chris Houghton
Valentines Day
Jammal

Thanks for a good year
cutie

Tweetie,
Love you always K.
P.S. did you forget
me?

Sr. Terrel, Yo te quiero.
Te amo. Te adoro!

love you Lisa
Bergeron- Mark Randall

Happy V-Day to the
nicest couple, Mr. and Mrs.
Perry.

Happy Valentine's day
to all bull lovers and
lady slippers
worshippers

Happy Valentine to Diane
Love, Scott

Josh, it's time for
snacks!

CJ, Geddie; you should
be my best
friend...Keebler

Hi ABT... Love
forever, Your Princess

I love you MPGD

Who loves ya, Barbour?
Heather, Crissy, and Beth

Julio- Happy Valentines
Day- You know who!!

JO
psyc

Happy V-D See you in
Love T-C

Happy V-Day Brilla Magrilla
and Jean Utard Love,
Kevy-Poo

Christopher,
I LOVE YOU!
- Michelle

Mark R.
I love you alot
Mrs. W

Hey Webster! you are
soooo gullable!

YIPPEEEEEEE!!!

Suzie shoe, I love
you! -Keebler

Book'em Danno!
and Learn, DEAD HEADS
DEPECHE MODE: Listen

I love u Lauren R.

Chocolate Ben?
PLSTOP

Happy Valentines Day
Vern, Kevy-Poo, and Jean.

H VDay BC
Daryl is Dynamic; Jody is
Joyful; Michelle is Marvelous;
Kerry is keen; Kim is kool;
Joy is Jiffy; Debby is
Delightful; Tracey is Terrific;
Karen is kind; Heidi is
Hilarious; Molly is
Magnificent; and Jo is
Jubulant. Seniors are super!!



Dina you're sweet
-Alex
TO the best friends
Happy V-Day
D-G-D-M

84-L forever
I Love You.
HAPPY GRAD SENIORS
Scott
DNA... Who? What?
Where? Why?!! chhhhhh!

Lauren, I don't love you...

Chris R. Rugby, Guba!,
ahhh, BLMLY Josh
Dusty and Spunky
BFFAE forever!

Ian- Hi Ebes Happy
Valentops!

Dearest Cher, He
doesn't like her.

Big Mel, Can't wait for
the next one! Lil' Mel

Happy Valentines Day
Slink! It's been fun heading
for the mountains, making
our weekends and bringing
us closer to Sun Country!
Love Kim, Debby, Daryl and
Joy.

lynn, Beat it, he's off
the wall.

Mijget, short people
aren't your style and
green is your color.
love, us

Hey, All you poppin burgers-
you're the best!

TO THE BEASTIE BOYS:
On this valentine's
day we dare to say
We really dig the way
you play!
LOVE THE BEASTIE
GIRLS!

Jim we need more
practice, - 12 more to
go
mel

No- I didn't forget
you maxi!

Hey Bren- You are far
away but still in my heart!
Happy Valentines Day.

Kerry Mary Casey- You
Scrooge!! Happy VDay

To the Wednesday night
crew: HAPPY VALENTINES
DAY!

Kim, Happy VDay FF, Joy

To my: "Do I wanna or
am I gonna" pal - Happy
V-Day!



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

happy happy happy
ppy Valentines Day - I'll
never forget you!

To our poker buddies:
Charlie, John, Scott, Pete
and Jim- Happy V-Day, we'll
be visiting soon! K + D.

I Love U
Marshall,
Holly
Will love,
and

Happy 1 - 2 5 t h
anniversary Lisa- your
cutie

Keith - want a butt?
Happy Valentine's Day
Michelle! -Deb

Dwayne- Boner is getting
lonely. I love you
Christopher-

Happy Valentine's Day
to Joy, Debby and Kim-
love Slinky

To my white knight,
That rose I owe you
hasn't yet opened-
I'll keep dreaming and
get insentive,.....
Don't think I'm
neglecting you!

Attention all drivers!
Chris Mautz just got
his license.

"Anthony- I can't believe
it." Ha Ha
Ali, Who invented liquid
soap and why? Love You.

Happy Valentine's Day
to Greg from himself
because he thought it
a strong possibility
that nobody else would
give him one!

ERIK YOU ARE A LOSER!!
-ERIK

MO, I hope you are feeling
horney on this day of wild
passion!! LUV Br. Ey.

Doug B. I will bend
over backwards for you

Happy Valentine's Day
Pee Wee!! Love mom and
Dad

Happy dismembered
hearts day to that
torrid, towdry, sexy
guy: steeve Latour

Spunky, Jacket, Dusty and
Basketball One = Make Waves
Forever
To the guy who wears his
heart on his sleeve. Happy
Valentine's Day! I can read
that heart, you're a real
special guy!

Roses are red
violets are blue
you smoke-----
and I do too!!

1 1 5 Days left
SENIORS!! Get psyched
love Molly and Jo-Anna

Happy Valentines Day P.J.
Love forever, Me

Heidi - What would I do
without you and the men!
Happy VDay - Karen
Jobotion!
Alas we are in the
same boat on
Valentine's Day! Let
us goeth forth Blap!
Rockith!

I love Laura Corsico
Love, LOU.

Kim Rockwell, Happy
Valentine's Day-CPA

Dear Ernie you're
gorgeous love Burt

To Steve and Dave: We
love waking you up in the
morning! Happy V-Day! K+D

Pork,
Ron says what time is
it. say hi to beans
-the ski
bunnies

Hi Yogi, Love, Your Boo

Scott-
Happy Valentine's day.
I miss you love, Lynne

EPC - I am, are you?
Happy Valentines Day!

To Deb's frosh admirer
with the size 23AA feet.
What would we do without
you?! The friend and the
ONE!

Is that a promise or a
threat? You know who you
are - Happy V-Day!

Let's have 'one more
night' Deb! Guess who?

Andi
"Tie
ya?"
-Josh
my shoe, will

R.M. - Dam you're cute!

Alan, Love forever,
have the best day
ever... I'll see to it
that it's made the
best. Shannon

Happy Valentine's day
Toby Mautz! from a
SENIOR!
I don't know what your
talking about J

Happy V-Day to O.R.,
may you all have your
heads stripped off by
ants and have large
ugly wrestlers vomit
down your throats-
Snively Whip Lash

C- How are you? I am
fine! What a beautiful day!
Love someone who thinks you
are a very special valentine

Eleni, Cool girl and
s-e-x-y Alex

Happy Valentine's Day Bob
Nilson!! Thanks for a good
sociology class. Deb, Kim,
Joy, Molly, and Jo.

Happy Valentine's Day
greg -period 1 study

Loneluncher, freshman
eat faster
-the upperclasswomen

Karen- "You're my inspiration"
Happy VDay Love, Deb

Hey Buddy, I've finally
got the plastic, and I'm
working on the buckage, so
hold me to that dinner I
promised. (Formal in Ports.)
Happy Valentines Day!

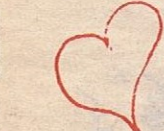
MO--Happy Valentine's Day
to the one I LOVE--JC

Tom C. and Jon S. We love
you! JE, KC, JH, Mrs. W

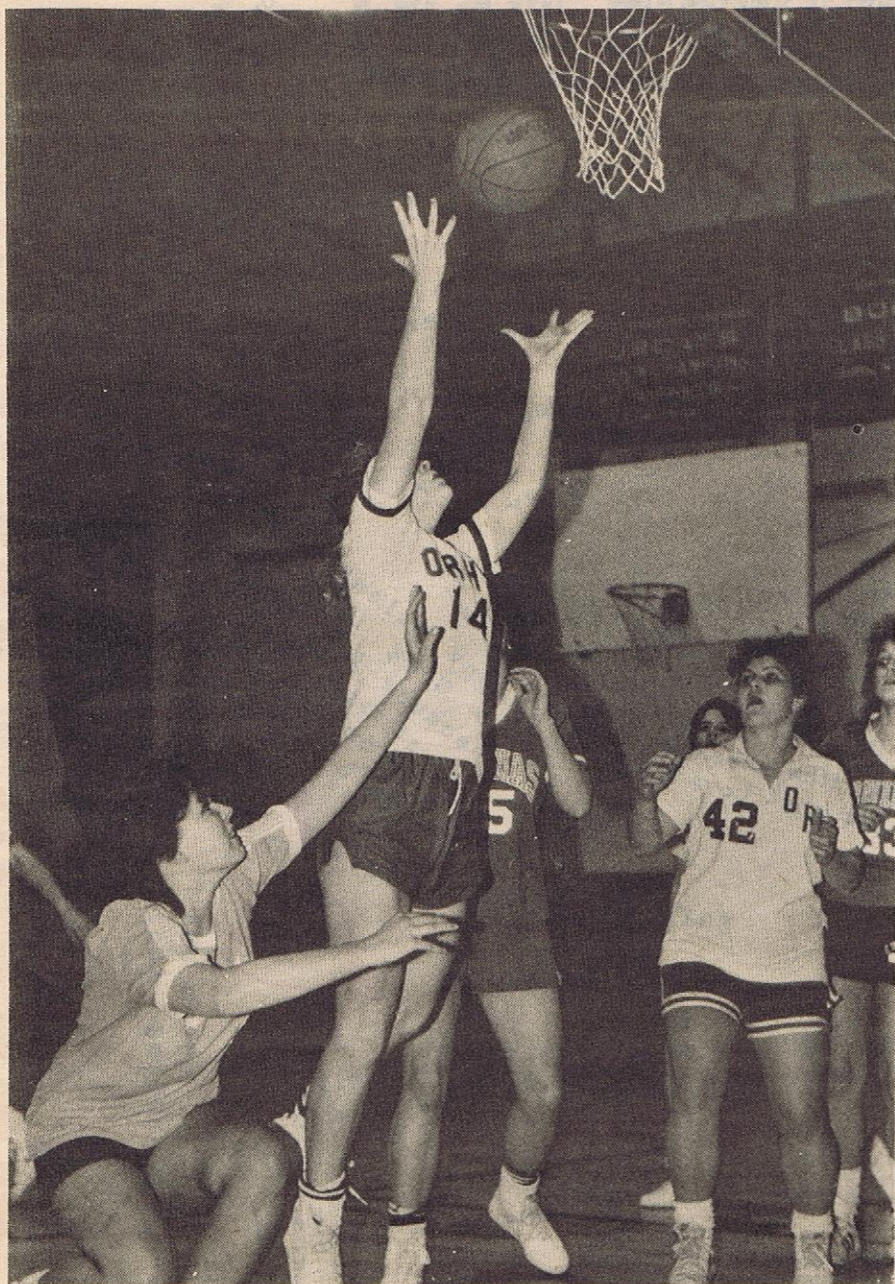
Eric Cotton- Happy
Valentines Day!!

Bum, Always thinking of
you! China

Jenna- Like to get to know
ya. B.C.



BOBCAT SPORTS BOBCAT SPORTS



O.R. Girls' B-Ball

by Keith Pearsall

As of now the girls varsity basketball team record stands at 9-5. Coach Fitzpatrick, whose season has been a surprising one, said, "the only thing we are looking at now is a playoff spot. If we get through the first round, then fine we will go from there."

The season started out a little slow for the lady Bobcats. They lost their first game to Exeter But beat Mt. St. Mary's in their second game. They lost their next three games. Coach Fitzpatrick said "Most teams would fold after three straight loses, but the girls kept their stuff together and continued to win."

According to senior Daryl Arrighi "we're on a 7-game winning streak. Hopefully this will be a good sign for the rest of the season if we continue to win

we'll earn a good spot in the play-offs."

For coach Fitzpatrick the season has been a surprising one. He felt the year would be a difficult one because of all the scoring power they lost last year. But the defense has been just great said, Fitzpatrick. We have won many games with our defense. Fitzpatrick feels Laura Musselman is a big part of the successful defense of play.

The team will have six tough road games to finish the season. coach Fitzpatrick feels if the team can win atleast two, they will have a good spot in the play-offs.

The team has a tough six road games to finish the season. Coach Fitzpatrick feels if the team can win at least two they will have a good spot in the play-off.

Boys' B-Ball Bound for Division Playoffs

By Chris Schuyler

The Boys basketball team have lost only two games all season. Their latest game against Kennett was lost at the buzzer. They also lost to Merrimack Valley (89-87). The Bobcats are currently in first place in class L. Their last win was against the Blue Hawks of Exeter. The Bobcats are looking for a playoff spot. Their next game is Friday against Newmarket.

In the game against Newmarket a scuffle erupted between Keith Pearsall and a Junior Varsity basketball player from Newmarket. The confrontation happened at center court just after the whistle sounded for the half. The confrontation resulted in both players being ejected from the game.

Even though Pearsall a powerhouse senior, gone the Bobcats still picked up the slack and defeated the Mules (88-66).



The Bobcats also defeated Somersworth 60-54. John Friermuth had 18 points and Dave Criswell had 14 points for Oyster River.

The Bobcats also blew out Sanborn 82-49. Oyster River controlled the whole game, all of the Bobcats scored except for two. All-Star performances were put in by Friermuth, Pat Casey, Dave Mangene, Todd Bragdon and Dave Criswell.

Dave Nichols said that other coaches around the state "rank O.R. in the top 5 teams in the state." They have clinched a playoff spot and the team is looking to come to U.N.H. for the playoffs. One reason Nichols gave for the success of the team is that most of the kids have played together since Middle School. The Bobcats have 3 games left in regular season play.



Winter Track Season Closes

by: Heather Gleason

The Oyster River track team has been going all out this winter. Says junior Jennifer Stevens "I personally have improved, and the team as a whole has improved." But one question has surfaced in recent weeks: Will Jeff Johnson be coaching winter track next year?

Athletic director, David Nichols says that, no, Johnson will not be coaching winter track next year. Johnson's reasoning for this is that having a variety of coaches is better than just one. It gives the kids a chance to learn different techniques and skills. Johnson also has business obligations.

Senior Chris Allen comments; "Yes, I agree that it is not good to have the same coach for all three seasons", however, all the comments about the coach were positive. Says Allen; "We've been doing well this year, we concentrate more on individual achievements rather than team. Johnson is a good coach."

It has come to light that coaches Carol Gephart (girls), and Rich Hinkle (boys) will also not be coaching next winter season.

The girls state meet was held on Friday, January, 31. Oyster River took the lead in most events. Sophomore, Liz Ashley came through a winner, taking first place in the 3000m. Junior, Alison Poulin came in second in the 600. Sophomore, Amy Friermuth took second in the 1500, and freshmen, Amy Martin was seventh in the 1500. Also competing were Lisa Barney in the hurdles, and Cindy Hughes in the 55m sprint.

Track's best relay team for the season was Cindy Hughes, Lisa Barney, Nissa Youngren, and Amy Eckert. Definately a great meet.

The boy's state meet was held on Saturday, February 1st. John Duffy took first place in the high jump with a height of 6 feet, 2 in.. Matt Fitzgerald came in sixth in the 1500.



Coca-Cola
REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

O.R. Swim Team Eyeing Fourth Championship

by Gunnar Olson

This years the Oyster River High School Swim Team is going for its fourth straight state championship. According to the swim team's coach Mike Parrato, "It will be harder than the last couple years because other teams have good incoming swimmers." The swim team lost people like Brendan Ronan, Bill Reeves, and Kris Ann Bothner who all did well in the championships last year.

The swim team started off the season by defeating Dover and Portsmouth in the first meet. And in the second meet against Exeter and Portsmouth again they came in second. The team has one more meet before the championships on Feb 14 at the UNH Indoor Pool.

Sophomore Jeff Tagliaferro said, "We will do pretty well, but this year we do not have as many swimmers as last year but we still have a lot of experience, We will still win."

According to sophomore Jeff Crum, "This years team has a lot of depth and talent with a good strong freshman group."

Mr. Parrato said, "We lost about 8 or 9 swimmers to graduation, but we gained 10 freshman swimmers. It is still a young team but with a lot of experience."

Most of the people interviewed had agreed that the team a lot of people but have gained a lot of freshman swimmers.

Everyone on the swim team is very confident that Oyster River will do well in the State Championships. 🐾

Board Reinstates J.V. Hockey Team

by Tom McDonough

The Oyster River School Board voted unanimously to reinstate the J.V. hockey team for the 87-88 season. This reinstatement came just a few weeks after the Board voted to suspend the team for a year based on a recommendation from the administration.

The reason for the administration's original recommendation was the quality and quantity of ice time for the hockey program. The intent was to resolve the ice time problems before another year past.

The administration's recommendation for reinstatement came after a meeting with UNH officials in which it was concluded that more Snively Arena ice time could be made available to Oyster River. 🐾



O.R. hockey coaches Torrey Johnson and Mike McCaffery look on during their tough 0-4 loss to number 2-rated Bishop Guertin.

Tough Season for Bobcat Skaters

by Tom McDonough

The varsity hockey season has gone 3-13-0 thus far. The Coach and some players attribute the season's dismal record to three reasons. These three reasons appear to be poor spirit, a new coach, and a young team.

Dave Rice a varsity defenseman and assistant Captain commented, "Our fifth game was 1-16, and at that time of the year it takes some of the incentive out of making the season successful." Charlie Hogarty agreed, "As the losses built up its been difficult to have or keep any intensity." Hogarty, as well as others concluded, "The intensity and enthusiasm isn't the same as last year." Dave Rice explains, "the team didn't develop a unity because we were doing so poorly that noone wanted to put out the extra effort."

First year coach, a UNH junior, Mike McCaffrey comments on the team effort saying, "I leave team spirit up to them (the players), motivation is from themselves." Varsity defenseman and Captain Chris Schuyler said, "You know its bad news when we leave a locker room after losing with smiles on our faces." Schuyler explains that the team attitude is poor and that a game should be something that goes home with each player rather than just something he does when the game schedule says so.

The second most commented on reason for the difficulties this season is the

coming of the new coach. As Mark Quinn said, "Any time you have a new coach its going to take a while for the coach to feel out all the kids." Simon Bell as well as others said, "I think the coach will be coming back next year which will be a help to the team cause he will know the opposition and the team. Where as this year he came into a whole new team and didn't know what to expect." Rice commented, "the coach had no coaching style, because it was his first year," while the last three coaches all had a specific style they put before the team the first day. Team Manager Mindy MacKay said, "(the reason for this seasons record) might also be that it is hard for the team to get used to a new coach."

McCaffrey agrees that it takes some time for the coach and the team to get to know each other. He also feels the main cause, for what he says is not a record indicative of the team's ability, is the age of the team. McCaffrey

comments that, "there are a lot of young players who will come a long way by next year, and the seniors this year are good examples to the younger players." Referring to the 87-88 season Simon Bell said, "a lot of teams will lose quite a few good players, which might make OR a better team." McCaffrey also commented, "by playing a young team they'll be able to handle the pressure," next year. Relative to the young team Simon Bell commented, "last year we had two people that could put the puck in the net." Mark Quinn was more specific saying, "There's no Kertzer or Cavanaugh that will get the team going on their own."

There were other reasons mentioned such as that more money should be spent on OR hockey and that a little more respect should be paid to the players who wake up at 5:00 am to practice. But, as Chris Schuyler said, "We consider and make excuses why we don't win but we know it's us and it's us that have to turn the season around." 🐾



Simon Bell comments to M.O.R. reporters about hockey season.

Winter Ironies or, Why are these People Smiling???

by Richard Tappan

It is 7:15 and I trudge through the New Hampshire permafrost and into the fluorescent glare of O.R.H.S. In my half-conscious state, I suddenly become aware of an irony. Earlier in the morning I had prayed for snow!! The snow I had grown to hate and hoped never to see again.

I began to acknowledge my depressed state when I could smile at the thought of more snow.

Then I thought of another sight I encountered each morning that puzzled me. Freshmen. They are always smiling. Why are these people smiling? Don't they know that life is dreary, vile, brutish and short? Don't they know they are in high school and the real world is not far away?

Seniors don't smile—not until spring break. They know the real world. Seniors have lost almost all hope, except for the hope that they will soon be out of this school and into another one.

But another irony struck me: I am GLAD that the freshmen are smiling, even if it doesn't make any sense.

Be careful when you arrive in the empty halls at 7:15. You might have to face a smiling freshman and an irony all at once.



Smiling Freshmen:
(top row) Toby Mautz, Jason Pollard and Scott Goodman
(bottom row) Laura Magidson, Lisa Cloitre, Diana Comtoise and Amanda Jones.

Left: Mr. Jones and son Griffith at the Snow Fest.

West Side Story Tryouts Scheduled for early March

The Drama Club is departing from tradition in scheduling its spring musical in the first weekend in May instead of the usual early April date.

The change, says music director Steve Denson, is due to conflicts with other events coming in April. All-state is the first weekend; the second weekend is a N.H. School Boards Association function at which the Jazz Band has been invited to perform; the third weekend is Easter (not an appropriate weekend to put on a show).

The Drama Club's spring production is "West Side Story." The musical is about youth gangs in New York City's West Side—one gang is white, the other Hispanic. A young woman of Hispanic background and a young man of Polish background fall in love and struggle against the hatreds of their friends who cannot accept their love.

"West Side Story" is about teenagers with an action-packed story and a musical score which has a special appeal for younger people.

Casting begins immediately after February vacation (see the commentary about the show on page 4).



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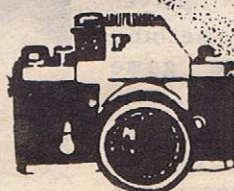
YEARBOOK

One Week to Go

"Hurry up and order my yearbook? What for? I think I'll just pick up an extra one in June."



Think again. Last year extras were ordered and few sold. This year, only those ordered will be printed. It's now or never. \$10 down by February 20th.



Junior Class News Bible Study Proposal Goes to O.R. Board

by Gunnar Olson

The Junior Class is busy at this time selling both carnations and notebooks to raise money for the class finances.

They are also planning to have a carwash after the snow melts.

Th Junior Class is also busy planning the Junior Prom which is scheduled for Thurs. May 28th.

The Sophomore Class had planned a ski trip to Gunstock on Jan 26th but due to the weather school was cancelled the day that the permission slips were due so nobody was signed up. But it is likely that it will be rescheduled.

Also the sophomores are planning an evening at the Works where people can swim or play racketball.

The sophomore class dance is on March 20th. Now Sound Express is going to supply the music. Although no theme has been selected as yet, it is an opportunity to raise \$400 for the class treasury.

The Freshman class has done a lot of planning but have not set an exact date for the activities. They have planned a dance for sometime in May. They have also planned a carwash for sometime in the spring. They are also planning a class activity but have not set an exact date. 🐾

Snowfest

(Continued from Page 2) obstacle course, and the air band competition. Each class had an opportunity to win some money to add to their bank account. The seniors built a whale, the juniors built a train that eventually took the snow sculpture contest, the sophomores built a teddy bear and the freshman built a pound puppy. The seniors won the whole Snowfest event and will receive money from the Student Council.

Overall the council was pleased with the participation of the students in the Carnival and hopes that such enthusiasm will be evident in the activities to come. 🐾

by Tom McDonough

Clarke Banta, an O.R. parent, said that he will bring legal action against the school if they do not allow students to form a Bible Study Club. Mr. Banta said this after a meeting with Superintendent John Powers in which he was told to appeal to the School Board because Powers could not allow for such a club to form based on legal advisement.

Powers said that he was advised by the school's attorney, Glen Davis, that "under the Equal Access Act, if we (the school Administration) allow non-school clubs of any kind to use school facilities in after school hours, we cannot NOT allow any other non-school activity to meet in the school." Powers continued that he could not recommend that the school lose the responsibility to limit school activities and that the school couldn't sponsor a "religious club espousing Christianity." 🐾

Music Dept. Assembly

by Joe Williams

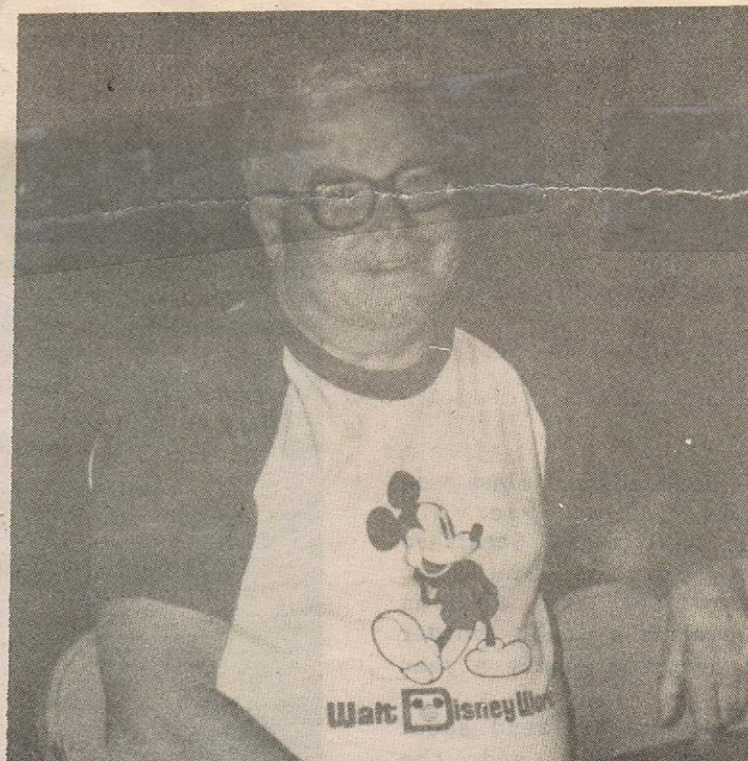
The Oyster River music department put on it's first school assembly in two and a half years yesterday in the Oyster River gym.

The Band, Jazz Band, Choral and Chamber singers all participated in the assembly playing a variety of music.

The band played three pieces, Saints on Parade, I Sing the Body Electric and the Pink Panther.

The Chamber singers sang a Bach piece and Over Hill Over Dale while the Choral sang Lauoate Jehoram and My Love's Like a Red Red Rose. The Jazz Band added with two new numbers.

Music director Steve Denson stated that "it's been two and a half years since the music department has preformed in front of the school. We have grown, changed and improved immensely in that time." 🐾



Steve Denson, Chorus director, band director, musical director in drama, year book advisor, etc...



Sadie Hawkins
(Continued from Page 2)

asked guys that they were attracted to, and in this case were usually going out with them.

The Sadie Hawkins Dance was a festive event overall. More than 200 people attended, fully dressed in semi-formal attire. The general feeling towards the dance being semi-formal was that it made it special, more than just a regular Friday night dance.

According to junior Pele Harris, "It was great to see everybody dressed up for a change. Too bad the cafeteria didn't provide a nicer background."

There was some controversy over the music played at the dance. It was supplied by 'D.J. Video To Go'. Bon Jovi could have been the theme of the dance. One senior, John Duffy, complained the there wasn't enough variety, "It !#\$%&#!", in other words, it stunk.

Besides the few unsatisfied students, the dance went smoothly. According to the president of the student ocuncil, Michelle Jacobson, the Sadie Hawkins Dance will become a tradition to look forward to at ORHS. 🐾

Mroz Offers Support Group for Children Of Divorced Parents

by Keith Pearsall

Over the last 7 years Mr. Mroz has spoken with students concerning the problems of divorced parents. Mr. Mroz feels that the time has come for a divorce program to help students who have divorced parents or students who are going through the ordeal of their parents getting a divorce cope with their problems.

The meetings are held on Tuesdays at 2:30 in Mr. Mroz's room #13. According to Mr. Mroz, The meeting will cover three areas. 1: students will share their feelings, to let other students know how they feel. 2: Getting better understanding of why parents might get divorced, and 3: sharing personal experiences of one's ordeals with their parents.

Mr. Mroz said "that one on one talking is not enough for students to help them with their problems. He also added "Groups are so much better for understanding, it lets students know they're not alone." 🐾

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Martin's Food Center

Durham, New Hampshire

Regular Store Hours Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m.,
Saturday 7:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., Sunday 8:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Journalism Class in Action

Journalism Class to Attend Sullivan Murder Trial

Journalism class is scheduled to observe a murder trial in the Strafford County Superior Court on February 18. The Sullivan case involves a double murder which occurred nearly a year ago.

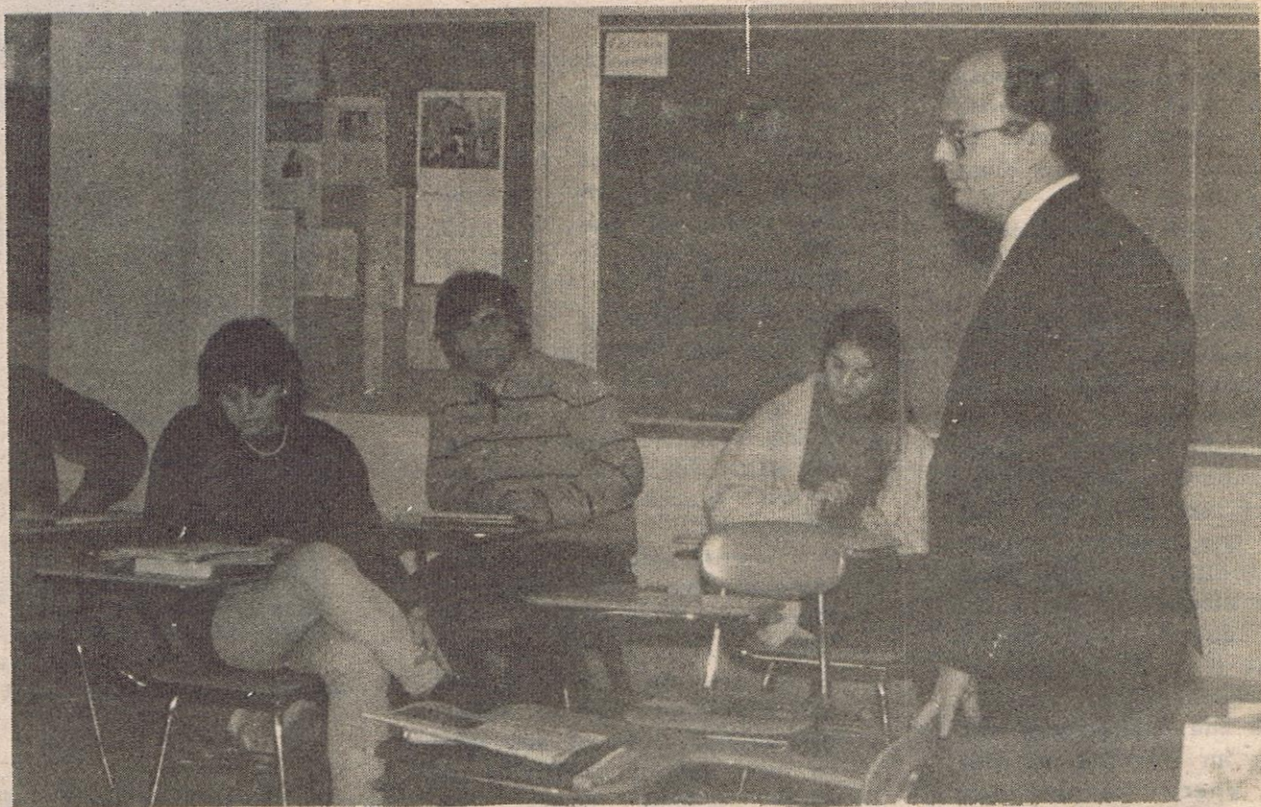
"The class has read about law enforcement and the courts as part of their training on covering the news," said Mouth of the River adviser Richard Tappan. "However, there is no substitute for covering an actual trial."

The class will meet with Judge Joseph Nadeau in his chambers prior to hearing the testimony in the second day of the trial.

Tappan said that the judge will alert the class to what they will be seeing, especially motions and procedures which might be unfamiliar to students.

"Everyone in the class will be assigned the task of writing up coverage just as if the article would be in Foster's the next day," said Tappan.

"I'm really excited about this experience," said M.O.R. editor Joy Coleman. "Court news has to be so exact. It will be very interesting to see how our version of the events matches up with the stories in the local papers." 🐾



Journalism students Karen Rogers, Tom McDonough and Kati Lynes host guest speaker



Buzz Dietterle, publisher of the Transcript, spoke to the Journalism class recently about the newspaper as a business. Starting with the Transcript, Dietterle now owns five weekly papers in the region.

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If you're 17, you can donate a pint of your surplus blood!

"Does it hurt?" Oh, come on!
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Mouth of the River reporter Heather Gleason interviews Steve Fuller, villain in "Fireman, Save My Child!"



The Mouth of the River

A production of Journalism class of Oyster River High School Issue 3 February 1987

DRUG BUSTERS TARGET USERS

U.S. Attorney Describes Fed's New Strategy

by Dave Mangene

"Our goal now is to try and stop drug trafficking at the teenage level," said U.S. Attorney for drug enforcement, Richard Weibush, at a recent speech to O.R.H.S. students. Weibush was the guest of Mr. Mroz in his Health classes.

Weibush emphasized that New Hampshire's drug problem is just as serious as anywhere else. "The availability of the drugs is the same."

He said his goal is to discourage teenagers from drugs. "We realize that stopping smuggling is impossible so we'll try in concentrated areas."

Lou Mroz, who has just received his certification in counseling said, "I have a problem with teenagers and drugs because it screws up their coping mechanisms and teenagers have big decisions to make. I think kids should get into natural highs." Counseling and education is one means of discouraging teenage drug use, but the U.S. Attorney sees an important role for law enforcement as well.


Mr. Weibush said 25% of his time is spent prosecuting drug cases. Most of it deal with people who, "possess with intent to distribute." He emphasized that possession of any amount of narcotics is illegal. This was contrary to a popular belief that possessing only a large amount is illegal.



U.S. Attorney for N.H.
Richard Weibush discussed
Federal drug enforcement.

Because of Federal aid to the states for drug enforcement, drug busts have been steady. Within the last few years there have been many large scale arrests. The largest cocaine bust in New England history took place in nearby Nottingham. State Police seized 70 pounds of cocaine along with marijuana and L.S.D. Police also made a large scale arrest in Henniker where they confiscated 120,000 units of L.S.D.

According to U.S. Attorney Weibush, local police are aware of the teenage drug problem but can't stop drug use very successfully. Most drug busts are just by accident. The police pull over a car for a traffic violation, smell marijuana and make an arrest.

Despite steady drug use across the nation, Federal, State, and Local drug enforcers are improving. According to Weibush, "Smugglers are getting scared and drug use is down." 

Smoking Policy: Is it Working?

by Dan Randall

"What do you do about the new smoking policy when you want to smoke?" This question was put before a sophomore, in the "former" smoking area, as he glanced through the window behind him, and, satisfied that no member of school rule enforcement was visibly present, pulled out a cigarette, and lit it up.

"I just have a cigarette," he said as he took a long draw, "no rule is going to stop me."

"But it stopped me," said a junior nearby, "It's not worth being suspended about."

Suspension Stirs Controversy after Snively Incident

by Joe Williams

Recently an incident at an Oyster River hockey game resulted in the suspension from school of a student spectator. Controversy has arisen following the event as to how far the school's disciplinary powers extend.


The incident occurred on January 13th between the second and third period. A fifteen-year-old Oyster River sophomore threw a snowball, which after hitting the bleachers shattered in the face of a Berlin manager.

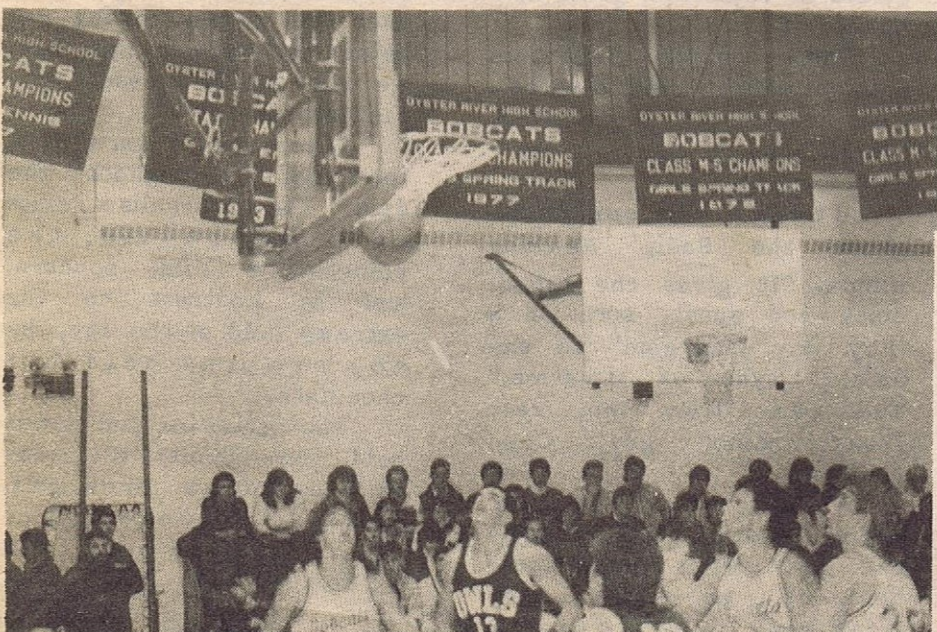
(Continued on Page 3)

BOBCATS FALL FROM 1st PLACE AS BASKETBALL SEASON NEARS THE PLAYOFFS

by Joe Williams

The Oyster River basketball team lost their second straight game Tuesday night dropping a 57-47 decision to Timberlane.

The loss was the third of the season for the bobcats and dropped them from first place in their division. 




Dave Criswell looks on as John Freiermuth scores a basket.

This recurring scene is a standing example of the effect that the new smoking policy has had on Oyster River smokers. According to an MOR poll, 23% of the entire smoking population have decided to obey the rule, and leave their butts at home. The remaining 77% claim that they are still smoking in school.

According to Mr. Jones, the policy has been successful so far. He said that despite the fact there are still students smoking in school, "there is no longer a location in which peer pressure can create new smokers out of non-smokers."

When asked about the time-consuming task that faculty members must undertake to catch smokers in the act, Jones stated that "it is worthwhile, because students will be more healthy if they do not smoke." As the top enforcer of the policy, Mr. Shapiro states that "I can't be everywhere at once, but if you get caught, you pay the price."

Mr. Jones believes that the rebellion will eventually subside, due to lack of student support. "I do expect that it is going to take time," said Mr. Jones, "to stop smoking in school." 



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